

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting
Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13th January 2016 at Cross Memorial Hall

Public Participation: There was one member of the public present whom addressed the Council on two main issues.

Late night traffic in the eastern end of Old Coach Road are noisy with revving engines and tyre spinning. This is generally experienced on Friday and Saturday nights, between the hours of midnight and 1.30 am. Householders are frequently woken by this disturbance. The above is part of a much wider issue of people not driving safely through the village. The excessive speed of traffic through Cross was identified as a more serious issue than that of 'stones on kerbs' and general parking. The speed of all vehicles including large agricultural tractors with trailers was unacceptable through the narrow residential road. Parking restrictions in this area would *not* reduce speeds and only hamper local residents that have no other parking option. The representative suggested that parked cars narrow the road, which aid reduction to the average speed of traffic through the village, however it was requested that CBPC considers speed calming options and it was suggested that this could be in the form of closing the road junction at the New inn / A38, the introduction of speed bumps, or installing priority flow orders at various points in the road. The formally proposed one way system is unlikely to work as it is unlikely to slow the speed of traffic just reduce the two way flow in the road. All of the options have benefits and disadvantages associated with them and local residents should be asked to have an input in a proposed way ahead.

Present: Cllr T Mason (Chairman), Cllr M Pritchard, Cllr D McCarthy, Cllr K Glimstead, Cllr E Parker.
Clerk (Temporary) Mr R Parker

The meeting commenced at 7.37 pm

1. **Apologies for absence**
 - 1.1. Apologies were received from Cllr J Denbee (SDC)
2. **Approval of minutes**
 - 2.1. The minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 9th December, previously circulated to all Councillors, were approved unanimously.
 - 2.2. The minutes for the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 30th December, previously circulated to all Councillors, were approved unanimously.
3. **Matters arising**

Item arising from minute 2 of the extraordinary meeting on 30th December 2015 – An advertisement will be submitted to the Cheddar Valley Gazette on 15th January and aim to interview and select a Clerk by 23rd February 2016. There are currently two applications.
4. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr McCarthy declared an personal interest in item 8.3 on the agenda
5. **Casual Vacancy**
 - 5.1. The Chairman reported that the casual vacancy advertised in May 2015 allowed the Council to co-opt one member immediately. There were three interested parties who would be invited to apply formally.
 - 5.2. The vacancy arising from Cllr Mace's resignation had been advertised with a closing date of 28th January 2016.
6. **Finance matters**
 - 6.1. A request was received for a donation to Contact Magazine of £250, it was **resolved** unanimously to approve this request. An invoice for payment of £78 from Blake Training for R Parker's strimmer training course was **approved** unanimously. The Clerk advised councillors that T H Baker had not been paid for any 2015 grass cutting, and had contacted Mr Baker who advised that invoices sent had been returned unpaid. Invoices were due to be received on this day but had not arrived. It was **resolved** unanimously to await invoices before payment.
It was **resolved** on a vote of four members for and one member against to approve the Clerks financial statement
 - 6.2. The 2016 /17 draft budget was discussed. It was proposed that as that the bus shelter had been renovated recently, £100 allocated for this should be transferred to 'Councillor Expenses' because the new councillors will require costs for their training. It was **resolved** on a vote of four members for and one member against to approve the draft budget.
7. **Planning Matters.**
 - 7.1. Three planning applications for 267 new homes in Cheddar would, potentially, have a detrimental impact on traffic volumes on the current roads. It was unanimously **resolved** to write to SDC Planners to object on the basis of insufficient infrastructure.
 - 7.2. The potential impact of the increase in housing, as defined in The Core Strategy would be for 1,402 houses resulting in an extra 1,500 – 3,000 vehicles. It was unanimously **resolved** to approve to respond

Signed: Chairman  February 2016

to the consultation using the draft presented to Councillors. Any comments on the draft should be made to The Chairman or The Clerk by Friday 15th January and then submitted.

8. Highway Matters.

- 8.1. Councillor considered the comments raised by the member of the public. It was proposed and **resolved** by a vote of four members for and one member against that The Council : writes to The White Hart to advise them of the complaint received and request notices asking patrons to be considerate to neighbours to reduce noise and speed of vehicles ; write to Thatchers and Alvis regarding the speed of agricultural vehicles passing through Cross and the parish ; and their drivers using mobile phones when driving ; Contact SCC Highways on possible traffic calming measures for the east end of Old Coach Road.
- 8.2. A report on the Coffin Lane Project was received from Tess Gill and read out by The Chairman. The SIS has been score-carded and decision will be taken in February. In view of the large numbers of residential housing being planned a letter will be sent to Cllr Fothergill (SCC) as further justification for the A38 refuge and footpath. The Axbridge Focus Group voted unanimously to support the Coffin Lane Campaign objectives. The team plan to monitor HGV movements to understand the commercial use of Cross Lane. The Footpath Liaison Officer's report had not received response CBPC to write to Chris East for a response.
- 8.3. Cllr McCarthy proposed ,and unanimously **resolved**, that this council requests from S.C.C. a revocation of the speed limit along the Webbington Road (DM) between the west of New Town and Rackley Lane and replace this with a 40mph restriction from the west of New Town to the parish boundary on the Webbington Road,

9. Environmental Matters


- 9.1. Mr R Parker reported that the decision on the DCO for Hinkley C connection is due on 18th January. James Heapey MP had submitted the petition from Compton Bishop, Badgworth and Mark PC's to Parliament and would be tabling an Amendment bill on Thursday 14th January to promote sub-sea connection instead of the overhead land based option proposed by NG.
- 9.2. The AONB Partnership elections, for a representative, was discussed. Cllr Parker had decided to withdraw from the election because of the onerous workload required from the representative. Council voted on the remaining two candidates. The vote was 2 members for Mr Briton and 3 members for Mr Dollins. The clerk will respond accordingly.

10. Communications


- 10.1. Parish Link - no report

11. Correspondence.

- 11.1. The following items of correspondence were brought to the attention of Councillors : The AONB manager, Sarah Jackson is leaving ; SCC announced their Draft County Plan – a vision for the next four years ; The Mendip Marauder Mendip Way 50 mile ultramarathon will pass through the parish on 6th August 2016.
- 11.2. A request from CVG asking for a statement on the sudden resignation of the clerk and the chair. The Chairman read a draft statement on the tensions in council and further pressures on the current planning Core Strategy consultation. Cllr Glimstead disagreed with a statement citing an email exchange between himself and the previous Clerk. It was **resolved** on a vote of four members for and one member against to release the statement.
- 11.3. A letter received from NALC encourages local councils to celebrate The Queen's 90th birthday on 21st April with celebrations and by lighting a beacon to support those being lit throughout the UK.

~~Cllr M Pritchard left the meeting at this point (9.10 pm)~~ 

12. Any Other Business

- 12.1. Cllr Parker proposed that The Parish celebrates The Queen's 90th birthday with a street party and lighting of a beacon on Crook Peak. It was unanimously **resolved**, by those present, to agree with this proposal.
- 12.2. The Chairman sought to mitigate the lack of knowledge regarding planning policy by co-opting a member of the public to act as an advisor/consultant to advise on planning matters and where they comply, and where they do not comply with SDC's planning policy. Cllr Mason proposed that ex-councillor M Rolfe be co-opted as he was on the previous Parish Council's Planning Advisory Group and is a planning advisor to The Mendip Society. Cllr Glimstead suggested that Mr Rolfe was the cause of tension mentioned in the previous item 11.2 and objected to the appointment. ~~It was resolved on a vote of four members for and one member against to invite Mr Rolfe to the position of planning advisor/consultant.~~ 

13. Next Meeting

- 13.1. 10th February 2015. Cllr Parker offered her apology because of a prior engagement.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9,16pm